

News Briefs

WE REMEMBER

2 COMM AIRMEN KILLED IN AFRICA

TWO COMMUNICATORS known for their “ready smile” and “quiet leadership” were killed Feb. 17 in a helicopter crash while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Djibouti, Africa.

Senior Airman Alecia S. Good, 23, of Broadview Heights, Ohio, was deployed from the 92nd Communications Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

Staff Sgt. Luis M. Melendez Sanchez, 33, of Bayamon, Puerto Rico, was deployed

from the 1st Communications Squadron at Langley AFB, Va.

Both were radio operators and on board the helicopter to provide satellite communication back to the Joint Operations Center at Camp Lemonier, said Army Sgt. Edgar Torres, also a radio operator.

“The pilots have line-of-sight communication, but there’s a distance limitation. With the satellite communication, they can be anywhere. It’s more efficient.”



Senior Airman
Alecia S. Good

Having been deployed to the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa mission for just six days, it was the first mission for both Airmen. Airman Good leaves a 2-year-old daughter



Staff Sgt.
Luis M.
Melendez
Sanchez

ter behind and Sergeant Sanchez, a wife and sons.

Seven Marines also died when two CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopters crashed into the Gulf of Aden. Two crewmembers survived and were rescued shortly after the incident and taken to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti.

The CJTF-HOA is responsible for fighting terrorism in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Somalia. This region has been used by terrorists as a place to hide, recruit, and stage attacks. The cause of the crash is under investigation. Officials said there was no indication of hostile fire and visibility was good with light wind. (AFPN)



AMBASSADORS

AIRMEN DONATE TO THAI CHILDREN

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS Brock Wood seems totally at home as a goodwill ambassador for the Air Force when he helped deliver a few supplies to an elementary school in Thailand.

The computer specialist with the 3rd Communications Squadron at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, joined 10 other Airmen for the visit Feb. 10 when they were able to take a break from participating in the Cope Tiger '06 exercise.

“It was nice that I could make everyone so happy by simply shaking their hand,” said Airman Wood. “I don’t think that I’ve ever had that much attention in my life.”

Cope Tiger is an annual exercise at Korat Royal Thai Air Base designed to hone flying skills and international cooperation between the U.S., Thailand and Singapore.

More than 300 U.S. military members donated cash to help the children, but only a select few could deliver the goods to the Ang Huay Yang Elementary School. They were able to donate a refrigerator, overhead projector and a variety of sports equipment. (Master Sgt. Adam Johnston, CT-PA)

MAIL CALL



Staff Sgt. Nic Raven / 1st CTCs

Army Sgt. Stephanie Zolnak is part of a joint-service team working postal issues for members assigned to the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa in Djibouti. CJTF-HOA’s mission is to combat terrorism and help bring stability in the region through civil-military operations and support of non-governmental agencies.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- ▶ Title: "Lasting Heritage ... Limitless Horizons: A Warfighter's Vision"
- ▶ It replaces "Vision 2020"
- ▶ 6 priorities are outlined:
 - ▶▶ Protect & respect our heritage
 - ▶▶ Maintain razor-sharp focus on the Global War on Terror
 - ▶▶ Continue to develop Airmen
 - ▶▶ Recapitalize and modernize AF inventory
 - ▶▶ Transform our organizations
 - ▶▶ Expand our role in cyberspace
 - ▶▶ Maintain our spirit of innovation
- ▶ Why you should read it: Because it provides a clear explanation of the Air Force's mission, history and plans for the future

Check out the document here:

<http://public.afca.af.mil/intercom.htm>

COMPUTER SECURITY

SUMMER'S CYBER BOOT CAMP

FORTY YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN from across the country will focus on a futuristic "cybercraft" as they participate in the 2006 Class of the Advanced Course in Engineering Cyber Security Boot Camp.

"The ACE was developed in 2002 to address the challenge of President Bush's National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace by developing the top students in Air Force, Army and Navy pre-commissioning training programs, in addition to the best among

civilian college students, into the next generation of cyber security leaders," said. Dr. Kamal Jabbour, principal computer engineer in the Cyber Operations Branch at the AFRL Information Directorate.

ACE 2006 students will spend the summer in Rome, N.Y., studying the analytical and scientific foundations of cybercraft. Lectures include legal and policy issues, cryptography, network defense and attack, steganography, analysis of malicious code, and wireless security. The ACE culminates with a two-day capstone cyber security exercise, or "Hack-fest." (Mr. Francis L. Crumb, AFRL PA)

PRACTICE

DICE '06 TESTS COMM SYSTEMS

THE ANNUAL Defense Interoperability Communication Exercise 2006 ends April 14. DICE promotes joint interoperability among military services, combatant commands, Department of Homeland Security, and local and state first responders.

The Defense Information Systems Agency's Joint Interoperability Test Command is the designat-

ed certifier for all communications equipment and systems.

DICE is the largest communications exercise with a goal of creating interoperability procedures that ensure robust support for the Global War on Terror efforts and responses to natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. Testing is conducted in a simulated Joint Task Force network that mimics networks currently deployed in support of various ongoing U.S. operations throughout the world. (DISA PA)

TARGET ASSESSMENTS

F-16 PODS BECOME 'EYES' OVER IRAQ

THE AIR FORCE'S F-16s at Balad Air Base, Iraq, have expanded their capabilities by performing non-traditional intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions, or NTISR.

In a conflict where dropping a bomb is not always the best answer, this use of the F-16 is proving to be a vital tool for forces on the ground. It also saves critical time in target assessments. The sensor

that is used—the listening pod—contains a laser used to guide munitions to their targets. The difference now is the targeting pods are being used to gain valuable information on an elusive

enemy and give real-time information to commanders on the ground.

While Balad's

F-16s cover the entire country of Iraq, they're often used in base defense.

(Airman 1st Class Jason Ridder, 332nd AEW PA)



speckled trout aircraft retires
No. 61-2669

After being a communications test bed aircraft for more than 31 years, with 31,000 flying hours, it retired from the AF inventory Feb. 10.

JOINT WARFARE

'KEYSTONE' COURSE DEVELOPS E-9s

In an effort to share the experiences and knowledge of the services' senior leaders, the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1982 directed the National Defense University to establish a professional military education program for general and flag officer selectees, now known in military circles as Capstone.

Recently, the university added a course for E-9s called Keystone; the first class met Jan. 30. It parallels the Capstone course but it focuses on "those that

do," said Bonnie Swanson, vice director for Pinnacle, Capstone and Keystone.

The course focuses on the joint environment as Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Thomas Hall can vouch the need for. He said his early training with the armored infantry rarely brought him together with other services. But, now he says it's as easy to call in close air support from his own service as it is from the Air Force, Navy or Army.

Keystone students visit the combatant com-

mands, joint task forces and senior leadership (both officer and enlisted) in the Washington, D.C., area to explore the relationships and challenges of operating in a joint environment.

Students toured the Langley AFB, Va., command and control center, which demonstrated how aircraft are part of the integrated air picture, a key element that highlights the Air Force's capability to put together the war effort.

Command Sgt. Maj. Neil Citola of the 3rd Armored Corps at Fort Hood,

Texas, said the visit was an impressive experience. "As dynamic an institution that

I believe the Army to be, we are still a lot about brute force. When I look at the technological advances

of our sister services (I hope the Army) will embrace this 'joint' thing."

Chief Master Sgt. Rod McKinley, Pacific Air Forces command chief, added, "Learning what other services bring to the fight makes us more efficient senior leaders for (our services)." (Mr. Matthew R. Weir, 1st FW PA)



GROUND RADIO



Airman 1st Class Anthony Nelson Jr. / 354th CS

Senior Airman Morgan Walker solders on an operator's workstation processor in Southwest Asia. He's a ground radio maintenance technician assigned to the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing and is deployed from Lackland AFB, Texas.

EDUCATION

INFORMATION RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COLLEGE FOR LEADERS

COMMUNICATIONS AND information leaders looking to broaden their skills should look into applying for the Information Resources Management College, which is the largest of four graduate-level colleges that comprise the National Defense University in Washington, D.C.

Col. John L. Hayes, Air Force Reserve Command, said, "From my perspective, the IRMC programs offer one of the very few opportunities for senior comm and info leaders to expand their technical knowledge. Most of us run out of training opportunities after such courses as the Communications Battlespace Management Course at Keesler AFB, Miss. I've found the IRMC to be beneficial in helping me in my role as the Chief Information Officer for the AFRC. In addition, we have at least four members of the AFRC/SC staff who have either completed their CIO Certificate program or are in some state of program completion. I only wish I had taken the courses earlier in my career."

The college enrolls military and middle-to-senior level civilian managers from the DoD, as well as personnel from other government agencies and organizations, foreign defense ministries, and private sector firms engaged in business with the government.

The IRM College offers graduate courses and certificate programs including: Chief Information Officer Competencies; Information Assurance and Chief Information Security Officer Programs; Organizational Transformation; Enterprise Architecture; Information Technology Project Management; and Advanced Management Program. (Lt. Col. Tony Buenger/Dr. Judy Carr, IRMC)

www.ndu.edu/irmc